

**ABSTRACT**

In order to implement alternative pathways and procedures for handling a separate set of software locks, an arrangement of circuits is described. These circuits allow for generating and handling specific requests for communal software locks without additional software development through pathways and procedures separate from ordinary lock handling operations. A side door communications pathway is set up to handle the communal locks separately from the ordinary data transfer pathways through which ordinary software locks get handled. Supporting and controller circuits handle the locking and unlocking process as well as communicating results of lock requests back to requesters.

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